

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMARKS ON THE PASSING OF GRACE STENGEL THOMPSON

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and pay tribute to the life of Grace Stengel Thompson.

Grace was born in Menard, Texas, to a German pioneering family on August 12, 1916. Her grandparents were Peter and Emma Jordan, who settled on Upper Willow Creek in Mason County in 1856. Her parents were George and Louise Stengel, who were prominent members of the Menard community. Grace and her husband, Claude, had three children—Toni Thompson Hurlbut, Judith Thompson Hunter and Claude John Thompson. Grace also has six grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild, and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Grace was proud of her heritage and of her large extended family; she kept up with many of her cousins, aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews, loved them all, and loved being with them especially at family gatherings. Her front door was always open, as was her table. The family remembers many fine “spur of the moment” meals she fixed for whoever showed up. To say that she was a wonderful cook and hostess is quite an understatement.

After graduating from Menard High School, Grace attended Texas Tech University, and it was at Tech that Grace met her husband, Claude, who was President of the Student Body while she was Secretary of the Student Body. They were married in Menard in July of 1937. Grace was a life-long supporter of Texas Tech, and especially the university's athletic programs.

Grace moved from Menard to Lubbock when son John enrolled at Texas Tech University. While there, she served as administrative assistant to three Deans of Students from 1972 until 1983. Grace belonged to the PEO Sisterhood and she was also a member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority. Grace was a life-long Methodist who loved the Lord and all around her.

Grace passed away on May 13, 2010, in Fredericksburg, Texas. Services were held on May 15, 2010 at the First United Methodist Church of Mason, Texas, and the burial followed at Rest Haven Cemetery in Menard, Texas.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Grace's life and to offer her many family and friends my deepest condolences. Grace was adored by all those who knew her, and she will be missed.

HONORING REBECCA ACORS OF SPOTSYLVANIA, VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rebecca Acors, a dedicated educator from Spotsylvania County, Virginia, retiring after fifty-two years of teaching at Robert E. Lee Elementary School.

Mrs. Acors began her teaching career in 1957 after graduating from Mary Washington College with a degree in psychology. Over the first part of her career, she taught first, second, third, and fifth grades. In 1974 she graduated from the University of Virginia's Curry School of Education with a Master's in Education degree. After receiving her Virginia state certification as a Reading Specialist, she began serving as Robert E. Lee's Reading Specialist and has served in that position to the present day. She has taught children and grandchildren of her early students, and this year she is teaching her first great-grandchild.

Mrs. Acors has taught through many changes—new trends in education and the ever-increasing use of technology in the classroom. She made it her goal to embrace and utilize innovative teaching methods in accordance with new research findings. In 2001, she was named the University of Virginia's Elementary Teacher of the Year and in 2008 she was named Robert E. Lee Elementary School's Teacher of the Year. To summarize her outstanding career, Mrs. Rebecca Acors has had a positive impact on colleagues, parents, community members, and most importantly, children. As she described it, “To be able to help children accept themselves, to challenge each child to reach his/her full potential and to give the gift of reading is invaluable. I am content in knowing that I have changed lives and made a difference in this world.”

Rebecca Acors devoted her life to the children of Virginia and I congratulate and commend her on this significant achievement.

CONGRATULATING STAFF SGT. GREENDEER ON RECEIVING THE BRONZE STAR

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Staff Sgt. Jessika Greendeer, who has been awarded the Bronze Star for her services in the United States Army.

Jessika is a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation, and has served in the United States Army since 2004. She is the daughter of Conroy and Janet Greendeer, and the great-granddaughter of Corporal Mitchell Red Cloud,

Jr. The Ho-Chunk Nation has stated that she is the first Ho-Chunk woman to have been awarded the Bronze Star.

Her services during Operation Iraqi Freedom, and her outstanding performance during combat operations therein helped to make the command's mission a success. For her actions, she was awarded the Bronze Star, one of the highest military awards available to members of the Armed Services.

I am proud to stand before you today and commend Staff Sgt. Jessika Greendeer for her service to our country. As a citizen of the United States, I am personally grateful to Jessika for her excellence in the U.S. Army. She has demonstrated the kind of sacrifice and service to our country that not only makes her a role model to members of the Ho-Chunk Nation, but to all Americans.

RECOGNIZING MARGARET HUNNICUTT—TEMPE CHAMBER'S 2010 BUSINESSWOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Margaret Hunnicutt, who was recently named 2010 Businesswoman of the Year by the Tempe Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Hunnicutt is currently the President and CEO of Tempe Schools Credit Union, an institution where she has served for nine years as both CFO and now CEO. Under her leadership, Ms. Hunnicutt has worked to keep the institution successful in both financial terms and in social responsibility. She brought the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, or VITA, to the Tempe and Guadalupe communities where low-income families can take advantage of free tax preparation help. The program has been met with great success and recognized by the City of Tempe as improving the quality of life for countless residents.

In addition to her accomplishments at the credit union, Ms. Hunnicutt is a graduate of the Tempe Leadership program, a board member for the Tempe Union High School District Education Foundation, and she received the Bank of America Neighborhood Excellence Award in 2009.

Ms. Hunnicutt has also overcome great personal challenges in her path to success. She persevered to attain an education as a single mother, tirelessly working full time for 13 years while attending school part time and raising her three children.

I am honored to call Margaret a friend, and I am very proud to recognize her amazing achievements in my hometown community.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Margaret Hunnicutt's many contributions to our community.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.